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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	Liepold et al.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Application No.:	10/566,611	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
Confirmation No.:	Unassigned	Docket:	1350-3 PCT/US
Filed:	January 31, 2006	Dated:	March 10, 2006
For:	A VALVE	Date:	<u>March 10, 2006</u>

I hereby certify that on the date indicated above I deposited this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signed: Mary Farischon

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants submit herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98.

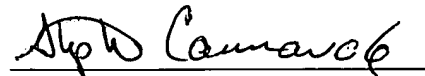
Attached hereto is Form PTO-1449 listing references which may be considered material in evaluating the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) and the PTO's waiver of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i)(1276 OG 55), no copies of the U.S. references are being submitted herewith. However, a copy of each of the foreign documents are enclosed.

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As this Statement is being filed before the first Office Action, it is believed to be timely in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), and accordingly no fee is due. If, however, a fee is due for entry of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-2461 for any such fee.

Applicants are not aware of any other references to be identified at this time. If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1350-3 PCT/US	SERIAL NO. 10/566,611
	APPLICANT Liepold, et al.	CONFIRMATION NO. Unassigned
	FILING DATE January 31, 2006	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		US 6,354,466	03/12/02	Karpisek			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		W0 03/038322	08/05/03	PCT				
		W0 03/090842	06/11/03	PCT				
		6 052 U	03/25/03	AT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.